Gabinete de Informação da
FRETILIN - GIF
Rua Caetano Alberto, 19
1000 LISBOA — PORTUGAL
Telef: — 89 76 00

TL 7300

January,1990

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N E W S B R I E F S

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CDPM
DOCUMENTAÇÃO
3/90

EAST TIMOR

INDONESIAN HELICOPTER SHOT DOWN
FOUR LIETENANT-COLONELS AND EIGHT MAJORS KILLED

GUERRILLA military actions took place in the eastern part of East Timor against the Indonesian military posts in Baucau (the second largest town of East Timor) and Venilale, in the eastern part of the territory.

On January 4th,1990, an Indonesian Air Force helicopter was shot down by the guerrillas, near Berkoli, in the areas of Veni - lale, causing the death of twelve military officials : four lieu- tenant-colonel and eight majors.

Another helicopter,shot also by the guerrillas, crashed in the south of Venilale,at Laritame.Its crew were all killed.

On January 3rd,1990, the Third Unit of FALINTIL - the East Timor National Armed Force - whose commander's name is Bian,attac ked the Indonesian military positions stationed in Baucau,at 02:00 a.m..During the attack nine Indonesian soldiers were killed and seized military equipment.

Simultaneous action took place in Berkoli, a village located in the south of Baucau, and in Venilale.

DEMONSTRATIONS IN EAST TIMOR

Timorese students were seriously injured by soldiers in the capital of East Timor,Dili, on January 17th,after a peaceful pro- -independence demonstration, that took place during a visit by the US ambassador,Mr.Monjol, at "Turismo"hotel.The demonstration was not against the US ambassador's presence.It was an opportunity to plea the ambassador to do something for the cause of the people of East Timor.

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Police and soldiers intervened injuring the people.Diplomats who accompanied the ambassador, confirmed that several people were severely wounded.Some demonstrators took refuge at the bishop's house.The injured people, were also cofirmed by two witnesses,Mrs.Jenny Groves and Mr.John Andrew Macmillan,who were lodged at the mentioned hotel.

On January 18th, hundreds of people, demonstrated in front of the "governor's" office, in Dili,demanding independence and professing to be supporters of FRETILIN.The demonstrators unfurled banners calling for the independence and shouted :"Integration,Never.", "Independence or Death" and "Long Live FRETILIN".

Once again the soldiers intervened brutally, causing heavy wounded among the demonstrators.At least 16 persons were detained and jailed in three different prisons in Dili.

The last demonstration took place on November 4th,1989,where the 30 students refuged at the bishop's house were all taken away by the soldiers, after breaking up the demonstration.

After returning to Australia, Mrs.Jenny Groves and Mr.John andrew Macmillan, made a written declaration about the events that they have personally witnessed.

INDONESIA - Bali . More than two hundred Timorese students rallied in Bali on December 26th, to demonstrate against the increasing of the repression in East Timor, carried out by the Indonesian troops,after the Pope's visit to East Timor.During the demonstration, a soldier was shot to death by a young Timorese, who grabbed the soldier's rifle.

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TL0359

OATHS ACT

STATUTORY DECLARATION

I,(1) John Andrew McMILLAN

do solemnly and sincerely declare (2)

1) At midday on Wednesday January 17, 1990, Jenny Groves and I were sitting in the beer garden of the Hotel Turismo in Dili, East Timor, when the U.S. Ambassador (John Monjo) and his entourage checked into the hotel. Minutes later between eighty and one hundred students converged on the hotel and occupied the balcony of A-wing. The students, many of whom wore cloth masks to disguise their faces, unfurled banners written in English calling for Peace; Justice; and Independence for East Timor (Independence Or Dead, Integration No And Never Indonesia! Go Out From Our Country).

2) Within two or three minutes half a dozen soldiers armed with rifles trotted into the beer garden. Half a dozen rocks were thrown at the soldiers by demonstrators on the balcony. A couple of the soldiers hurled rocks back at the students on the balcony. Three students ran into the beer garden and were apprehended by the soldiers who kicked, punched and beat them with rifle butts. As those students were dragged away we sought refuge at the entrance to the hotel. From there we could see dozens of soldiers and Polizi gathering in the street. I returned to my room at the hotel to get a camera and tape recorder.

3) When I returned to the entrance to the hotel, the US Ambassador and his aides and their Indonesian hosts were listening to student leaders who were pleading with the Ambassador through

And I make this solemn declaration by virtue of the Oaths Act and conscientiously believing the statements contained in this declaration to be true in every particular.

Declared at Darwin the 23rd day of January 1990

(3) J. Q. McMillan

(4) R Regattieri.

Before me,

(5) ROSYN LYNETTE REGATTIERI
COMMISSIONER FOR OATHS (N.T.)
TELEPHONE: (089) 89 7955.

(6) THIS DECLARATION MAY BE MADE BEFORE ANY PERSON WHO HAS ATTAINED THE AGE OF (18) EIGHTEEN YEARS.

NOTE: — A person wilfully making a false statement in a statutory declaration is liable to a penalty of $2000 or imprisonment for 12 months, or both.

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Statutory Declaration by John Andrew Macmillan continued...

a megaphone. An interpreter told us that the students were apologising for the disturbance, that they were outlining human rights abuses perpetrated by the Indonesian military and calling for United Nations intervention in East Timor. The students claimed that they would be persecuted or killed for taking part in the demonstration.

4) Student leaders and the Ambassador spoke to each other through megaphones for an hour. Throughout this period, Indonesian officials cooperated with the Ambassador, giving the impression that free speech was a right in East Timor.

5) While riot police with shields and batons lined up on the street on either side of the hotel, plain clothes Indonesians videotaped, photographed and recorded the names of students. Jenny Groves and I were also photographed when Jenny continued to take photographs of the demonstration.

6) As the Ambassador left the hotel in a red Toyota at about 1:45 pm, the students surged beside and behind his car in order to gain safe passage away from the hotel. They were restrained by soldiers and police. When the Ambassador's car was fifty metres away, riot police and soldiers charged into the demonstrators, beating them with batons and rifle butts. The students were, at this point, on the street immediately in front of the hotel. Some students managed to escape. The rest, I would estimate forty in all, were clubbed and beaten into a human pile against the hotel's iron fence. Many were streaked with blood and obviously in shock. Students who scaled the fence and sought refuge amongst the five tourists and two diplomats sheltering at the entrance to the hotel were chased, kicked and beaten by soldiers with M-16 rifles.

7) As students in the human pile began praying and men in plain clothes dumped buckets of sand over pools of blood on the roadway, I saw one body, that of a young man, dumped onto the tray of a grey truck. A red rag was thrown over his face. Police climbing into the back of the truck kicked his body out of the way. He did not respond.

8) As soldiers and police stood back, under the restraining command of officers who were obviously aware of the presence of foreign on-lookers (I was two metres from the pile at this stage, watching over the fence), an International Red Cross worker moved in. The students disentangled themselves and straggled towards the Bishop's house two doors from the hotel. Many were crying and streaked with blood. Others retrieved bloodied sandshoes and footwear before moving to the Bishop's house.

9) One student threw a blood stained t-shirt to me. I placed the t-shirt on the tailgate of the utility I was leaning against. Within thirty seconds it had disappeared.

10) By 2:10 pm the street was virtually empty.

11) Later, in talking to an International Red Cross worker, we learnt that one student had been shot. He sought refuge by stumbling in the back door of the Red Cross house next to the hotel. There he collapsed and died on the floor, vomitting blood and the bullet that killed him. Soldiers kicked in the door to the Red Cross house to retrieve him. The Red Cross workers, of whom there were two, kept the bullet.

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Retyped copy of a hand-written document faxed to TAPOL on 23 January 1990
NB: Some words on the left margin were only partially legible on the fax. Words that were not decipherable are indicated by (....)

Oaths Act
Statutory Declaration

Declared at Darwin, the 23 day of January 1990, before me, Robyn Lynette Regattieri, Commissioner of Oaths (N.T.), telephone (089) 89 7953.

I, Jennifer Caroline Jane Groves,

Do solemnly and sincerely declare as follows:

Andrew McMillan and myself were sitting in the beer garden of the Hotel Tourismo discussing our travel plans with a tourist officer. Our conversation was interrupted by the sound of about 100-120 people coming into the hotel and walking up the stairs of the left wing and displaying their banners to the people in the beer garden below. These people appeared to be in the age range of 17-20 years, so we assumed they were students. About 15 of these students came down the stairs into the beer garden with their banners. At this point, military personnel came into the beer garden and started hitting these students with rifle butts, as well as physically trying to drag them off. Some of the students still on the balcony started throwing rocks at the military personnel. These rocks were returned to the students by the soldiers. Students also pulled leaves (?) off some of the plants growing in the window boxes on the balcony and threw these at the military personnel.

As suddenly as the scuffle had started, it stopped. The students continued to voice their (....). Andrew and I moved to the front of the hotel at this stage, where a small crowd of hotel staff, tourists, Indonesian Government officials and American diplomatic staff (including the ambassador) had accumulated to watch the proceedings.

For a while the students continued to chant in a disorganized way until one student with a megaphone started speaking to the ambassador (Mr John Monjo), apologizing for the disturbance and putting the case across for human rights and independence of East Timor. They spoke to the ambassador in Bahasa Indonesian and so I was unable to understand most of what they were saying. However, there was an Australian tourist standing next to me who interpreted most of what was being said. This tourist's name was Juan; he did not give his second name and the only other information I have about him personally is his address and that he lectures in political science.

The conversation between the students and the ambassador initially took place face to face at a distance of only a metre or so. None of these talks could be overheard by the onlookers. These talks changed, to the students speaking through the megaphone to the ambassador who was standing in the entrance way to the hotel (....) speaking through a megaphone supplied by a government official.

Two government officials were walking around the student body and putting names down throughout these talks. At this stage, Andrew and I had our photographs taken with a flash.

At the completion of these talks, the ambassador (....) to attend a meeting with the governor. The students requested safe passage from the hotel by the ambassador, informing him that they would be beaten if they could not gain this as the hotel had been completely surrounded by police and military personel.

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The ambassador eventually drove away. The students tried to follow the car but failed. At this point, the violence broke out. The police carried batons and the military carried rifles and used these weapons to push the students into a human mound and surrounding them against the fence. There were shoes scattered over the road as well as blood, and other articles of clothing. The students in the mound protected their heads from being beaten with their arms.

Once the human mound was formed, I saw a body which appeared very limp thrown onto the back of a truck and his face covered with a red rag. I later learned from red cross officials that he had died in the violence.

There were a number of other students who had a lot of blood on them and there were a (.... lot?) of injuries, possibly some serious.

After about five minutes, the students were allowed to break up the mound and they stayed up against the fence praying. Their prayers lasted about five minutes and many of the students were crying.

The students were then allowed to leave in the direction of the town. Government officials picked up the shoes and pieces of clothing (....) littered across the road. One student had (....) us a badly blood-stained T-shirt which was taken from us by a government official. As the students were leaving, we were approached by a government official but we did not have a conversation with him although it was obvious he was concerned about what we had seen.

The students took refuge at the bishop's house and the military and police left the hotel.

I went back to my hotel and concealed the film in my belongings, fearing it would be confiscated.

Andrew and I then went back into the beer garden, deciding what our next move should be. We were joined here by two of the ambassador's party who had remained in the hotel when the rest of the party had left for the meeting with the governor, and had therefore seen the whole incident. The two diplomats asked Andrew and I what we had seen. I said I had taken a couple of photographs (when in fact I had taken 37), and in conversation, Andrew informed them that he was a (....er). Another man joined the conversation (....) the name of Mark who was working in Dili with a catholic aid organization and (....) us through the red cross that there (....) two students officially dead. One of the dead was the body I had seen thrown onto the truck, though the other had been (....) escaping from the hotel. This student ran to the red cross building. After (....ing) the door, he had collapsed on the (....), vomited up some blood as well as the bullet that had killed him. The military followed the student into the red cross building, breaking down the door to get in and taking the student's body away. Later, we were told the ambassador had (....seen?) the bullet and the body in the red cross building.

The next day, Andrew and I went into Dili and bought tickets to Kupang. We had a conversation with Juan who gave us information on the general situation in East Timor as well as who we needed to contact when we returned to Darwin. Juan (....) then told us it was imperative we leave the country as quickly as possible as our (....) would be in peril once the photographs (that?) were taken of (off?) us had reached the customs officials.

We managed to leave the country with the film with no further incidence.